

Express Mail Label No. EL 813 876 464 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No. 15584.4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michael Ewart Barritt et al.

Int'l. App. No.

PCT/GB01/03527

Int'l. Filing Date:

August 6, 2001

For:

MOBILE COMPUTING SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the fee for the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract to read as follows:

--A system for operating plurality of diverse mobile computing devices **200** used by mobile users includes a subscriber database **150** having information about the hardware and/or software capabilities of the mobile units. An application server **100** accesses the subscriber database **150**, allowing preparation of an application script from script segments according to the hardware and/or software capabilities of the unit. A master application **715** in markup language may be used for the preparation of the application script. Applications and data in the form of script can then be downloaded to each mobile computing device and can continue to function offline with periodic synchronization of data and application with information held in an information server database **460**.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-24.

Please add the following new claims 25-48:

25. (New) A system comprising:

a plurality of mobile units for use by mobile users;

an application server;

communications means for enabling said mobile units to communicate with the application server;

a subscriber database comprising information about the software and/or hardware capabilities of individual mobile units;

a script database comprising equivalent script segments for carrying out particular functions on mobile units with different software and/or hardware capabilities; wherein

the application server is adapted to provide an application script to a mobile unit, said application script being prepared from script segments selected from the script database according to the information about the mobile unit stored in the subscriber database.

26. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 25 wherein the system further comprises a master database, said master database having mobile user specific data, and said application script further comprises mobile user specific data specific to the mobile user, acquired from the master database.

27. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 26 wherein a mobile unit stores a copy of said mobile user specific data.

28. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 26 wherein a mobile unit edits a copy of said mobile user specific data.

29. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 26 wherein a copy of said mobile user specific data is synchronized with the mobile user specific data stored in the master database.

30. (New) The system as claimed in claim 29 wherein the application script is synchronized concomitantly with synchronization of the mobile user specific data.

31. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 26 wherein said mobile user specific data relates to tasks carried out by said mobile user.

32. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 26 wherein said mobile user specific data relates to tasks which have been or are being carried out by said mobile user.

33. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 25 wherein the system further comprises master application program code which is interpreted by the application server to prepare the application script.

34. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 33 wherein the master application program code is stored in markup language.

35. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 25 wherein said mobile units communicate with said application server over the internet.

36. (New) The system as claimed in Claim 25 wherein said mobile units comprise a browser, said browser executing said application script.

37. (New) A method comprising:

acquiring information about the software and/or hardware capabilities of a mobile unit from a subscriber database, the mobile unit being for use by a mobile user; and

preparing an application script customized for the mobile unit from script segments being selected from a script segment database according to the software and/or hardware capabilities of the mobile unit.

38. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 37 wherein said application script further comprises data specific to a mobile user acquired from a master database of mobile user specific data.

39. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 37 wherein a mobile unit stores a copy of said data specific to a mobile user.

40. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 38 wherein a copy of said data specific to a mobile user is edited by the mobile user.

41. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 38 wherein the method further comprises the step of: synchronizing the copy of the data specific to a mobile user with the data specific to a mobile user stored in the master database.

42. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 38 wherein said data specific to a mobile user comprises information concerning tasks to be performed by or which have been performed by said mobile user.

43. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 37 wherein said application script is prepared with reference to a master application.

44. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 43 wherein said master application is stored in the form of a markup language.

45. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 37 wherein a mobile unit comprises a browser and the application script is executed by said browser.

46. (New) A computer program comprising program instructions which, when loaded into a computer, comprise the application server of the system of Claim 25.

47. (New) A computer program comprising program instructions for causing a computer to perform the method as claimed in Claim 37.

48. (New) A computer program comprising the application script of Claim 25.

REMARKS

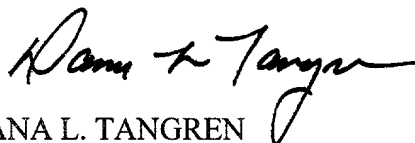
By this Preliminary Amendment, applicant has amended the abstract to address formal issues. Claims 1-24 have been cancelled and new claims 25-48 have been added. Applicant submits that the new claims are supported by the original claims and have primarily been amended to remove multiple dependencies or to otherwise place in a more conventional format for U.S. prosecution. For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the abstract and the claims do not introduce new matter, and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the abstract by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.

In view of the forgoing, claims 25-48 are presented for the Examiner's consideration on the merits.

DATED this 22 day of February 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT

The abstract has been amended as follows:

--A system for operating plurality of diverse mobile computing devices **200** used by mobile users ~~is described.~~ A includes a subscriber database **150** ~~is provided comprising~~ having information about the hardware and/or software capabilities of the mobile units. An application server **100** accesses the subscriber database **150**, allowing preparation of an application script from script segments according to the hardware and/or software capabilities of the unit. A master application **715** in markup language may be used for the preparation of the application script. Applications and data in the form of script can then be downloaded to each mobile computing device and can continue to function offline with periodic synchroniszation of data and application with information held in an information server database **460**.--